

67
A
LETTER

Directed to the
RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE

Earl of Perth,
GOVERNOR
PRINCE



L O N D O N

Printed by Charles Bill, and the Executrix of Thomas
Newcomb, deceased, Printers to the Kings most Ex-
cellent Majesty. 1700.

done in that matter. It will be a great
 service to the Queen.

I told you amongst other things the
 great Fleet the King intends to put out
 this summer. The Officers being given
 and the Money ready, the Stores full, and
 every one concerted Active in their sta-

RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE

Earl of Perth,

GOVERNOUR to the PRINCE

they have the Will, and it is a Question
 if they will have it at all.

Friday 18th of February, 1701.

My D^{ty} Br.



Ince I promise to put in
 Writing what we had not
 time to talk fully of, I am
 set down to it in the
 Morning, that my Letter
 may be ready for the
 Messenger if any call.

I told you all that I had heard at Ver-
 sailles, and the favorable Audience I had
 of Madame de Mentenon, for which I beg
 it of you to return my most humble
 Thanks to the Queen, and beg of her
 to be so good as to Thank Madame de
 Mentenon, and know from her what can be

A 2 done

LONDON
Printed by J. Sturges, at the Sign of the Crown, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, near the North Gate.



Matthew Johnson,
Cleric Parliamentor

Directed, To the Right Honourable the
Earl of Perth, Governour to the Prince,
Then, It is Ordered by the Lords Spiritual
and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the
Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, do
give Order, that the said Letter be forthwith
Printed and Published.

Printed by J. Sturges, at the Sign of the Crown, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, near the North Gate.

THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
G E L L E Y

How this will be done their Majesties are wise enough to Consider, and I think it is not a Subject fit for me to enter upon, but their Friends in general, who know not the half of what I know in this matter, think that it will not be well done by a Protestant Minister, Lazy in his Temper, Enemy to *France* by his Inclination, Tainted with Commonwealth Principles, and against the Kings Returning by any other Power than that of the People of *England*, upon Capitulation and Terms, who is suspected of giving aim to the Compounders, if not worse.

That Mr. *Carrell* is qualified no man doubts, but in Society with the other, these who must be Instrumental will not trust him as he ought, so that so long as the other is within distance of penetrating the Affairs, they will never think themselves secure.

And yet the King has no such Game to play as by these very Persons, who are thus defident, namely the true Church of *England* Party, the Catholicks, and the Earl of *Arran*, and I shall say something as to every one of them. The King cannot but be sensible that the true Church of *England* Party, and their Principal Head now the Bishop of *Norwich*, has been silent of a long time, and their Majesties may remember what weight the Court of *France* laid upon their joyning

done in that matter. It will be a great
 Charity in the Queen.

I told you amongst other things the
 great Fleet the King intends to put out
 this Summer, the Orders being given,
 and the Money ready, the Stores full, and
 every one concerned Active in their Sta-
 tions: There is no doubt but this Fleet
 will be Master of the Sea for some time,
 if not for all the Summer, because the
 Dutch dare not till the *English* be ready,
 and they have long Debates yet before
 they can be in a Condition to Act: If
 they have the Will, and it is a Question
 if they will have it at all.

The King never had so favorable a
 Conjunction, if he can persuade this
 King that his Affairs are really in the
 Circumstances they are in, but there is
 the Difficulty.

The King and Queen have more Au-
 thority with the King, and with *Madame*
de Miremon, than any other in the World
 can have, but that's not all, there should
 be some one Acceptable to the Ministers,
 who should lay before them these Proofs,
 their Majesties cannot enter into the De-
 tail of, and explain the Reasons, make
 Plans and Memores by their Majesties
 Approbation, to Convince them of the
 necessity, and to shew the easiness of Re-
 storing the King, the Glory it brings to
 their King, and the Advantage to Reli-
 gion.

How

much Inclination for me, and so have been reckoned as useless to the King, but I must beg leave to say, that Undertaking was the best Feather in his Wing, and was most justly thought so by him, and by the Court of *France* too, even to that degree, they pretended if this and the other Article concerning the Clergy, could be made Appear, they would Concur with the King to Invade *England*. They Consisted of Seven Regiments of Horse and Dragoons, their Arms, Trumpets, Kettle Drums, Standards, &c. were all ready, and are yet in surety, their Men were all Listed, and their Officers Chosen, and they had twenty Horses to a Troop, which Troops lying at a distance in a Horse Country, twenty Horses would soon have Mounted the rest.

Those who could not divine the Greatness and the Use of the Undertaking, blamed the Rashness of it, and even some Churchmen have not been disapproven for endeavouring undutifully (because contrary to the Kings Written Orders) to break the Designe; but I desire you now for all this to believe, that you have not such another Argument to use to the Court of *France* as this, and if you could make it appear, as it might have been done some Years ago, I should have very good Hopes of this Summers Work. Nay let the King have what other

the King (I mean the Non-Swearing Cler-

gy) in case of a Landing.

Therefore all acts should be tried with-

out delay to get them to enter into

Correspondence again, and every Impe-

diment ought to be removed, I say with-

out exception, and though sometimes it

is of hard digestion for Sovereigns who

ought to be obeyed without reserve, to

yield to the humours of Subjects, yet

Prudence should teach them, when they

cannot without hurting their Affairs do

what they would, to do what they can, and

remember the Fable of the Dog, who

lost the Substance for the Shadow.

Advances from the Non-Swearers, the

Soundest and Venerablest part of the

English Church, would be of great use at

this time, to persuade *France* to under-

take this great Affair, for besides their

owne Example at a Landing, and their

Preaching and Writing to the People,

that their Religion was in no danger,

it is most certain they know better than

any others can, what the Church of

England in general would do for the Kings

Service, and they being to run all the

hazard, would be better believed at the

Court of *France* than any other, as I

found by experience.

As to the Catholics and others who

state with them unfortunately for the

King they were thought to have too

much

the Disaffection to the Government will encrease, and one may judge of the Nation in general, which is of an other Temper than this pretended Parliament, or rather Presbiterian Rabble, ill representing the Nation. For since even in it, there is such a Struggle against the Government, what would there be in a Free Parliament, which the P. of O. durst never hazard to call.

The Nation then, at least a great part of it, being disaffected to this Government, it is of the last Consequence that E. Arran may know what to do in case of an Invasion of *England*, or in case he and his Friends be obliged for Selfpreservation to rise in their own Defence.

The Army who are and ever were well-affected, are to be gained by Money, and a little goes a great way with them.

The Disbanded Troops would be engaged, and the Officers are well inclined.

The Places of Strength would be secured, and such as can be put in Defence (without Expences) fortified.

To do all this, at least such a part of them as can be begun with, a small Sum will serve, and He ought to have Hopes of it, and of the Command.

These being only Heads to be discoursed of, and much to be said of every part, it is not to be thought that this Letter can carry a final Conclusion; for it may

other Hopes, or even Promises you please
 from the Court of *France*, this is to be
 Encouraged, and if possible, to be put
 in the Circumstances it was in, for if ever
 there be a Landing in *England* to purpose,
 it must be before they can be armed, and
 they cannot be armed before the Parlia-
 ment come to a Resolution concerning
 the War, and considering the few Troops
 in *England*, suppose these men to be no
 better than Militia, what a Diversion
 would it be? It is not necessary for me to say any
 more of this Article, till I know whether
 their Majesties have as good an Opinion
 of this Undertaking as I have. If so I
 shall shew what I think to be done in it,
 if otherwise I shall save the Pains.
 As to the Earl of *Arran*, it would be
 of great use to have an Understanding
 with him. He will have none where-
 can pry; his all is at stake, and he ought
 to be wary with whom he ventures to
 deal. I think it better for the Kings Service,
 that the Court Party prevailed in the
 manner they have done in the Parliament
 of *Scotland*, than that the Country Party
 should have got their Will. Opposition
 swells the Waters to a Flood, and so long
 as the Country Party is not discouraged,
 they gain more Ground in the Kingdom
 than they lose in Government. So that
 the

Forée they have, they offend the more, whilst before the Resolution be taken, Reason has its Effect, and the Determinations are not the Effects of Humour and Faction, but of Prudence and Justice.

If in any thing I fail, I'll Swear its want of Understanding, and not of Will. And I beg, that their Majesties may be persuaded, that it is not Humour nor Vanity, but their Service I have in my view, who am,

My Dst. Br.

Most humbly Tours.

There are no Letters from *England*, I expect and am promist—

I forgot to tell you, that the Conjunction ought to be improved so long as the Court of *France* have the Ill Opinion of the Pr. of *Orange's* Treachery discovered lately in their hands.

Superscription,

*For the Right Honourable
the Earl of Perth, Go-
vernour to the Prince,*

These.

be upon Discount, I might charge my
 Mind, or be more confirmed in, and see
 further, to me to diminish, I might in you
 This makes me insist again to you
 upon two things as appearing to me ab-
 solutely necessary to put things upon a
 right foot. The first is the removing of all im-
 pediments out of the way, and sending
 all Suspected Persons to *Champaigne* or
Burgundy, according to their Court.
 And the second is of the last life, both
 to their Majesties and the Prince, which
 is the Establishing of such a Number,
 under no Qualification, to talk of their
 Affairs in their Majesties Presence, with
 whom we can freely converse and pro-
 pose what may be for their Majesties
 Service. As for the First, It will be for the
 Kings Reputation both at the Court of
Rome, France, and with all his true
 Friends in *England* for many Reasons—
 As for the Second, It is according to
 Scripture, In the multitude of Coun-
 cellors there is safety.
 Nothing is so dangerous as first to De-
 termine what one will do, and then hear
 Reasons against it, and imitate the
 deaf Adder who hearkens not to the
 Voice of the Charmer, let him Charm
 never so sweetly. Reasons against a Re-
 solution taken, offend, and the more
 Force

These

sermons to the Bishops
the Earl of Berkeley, Co-
for the Right Honourable

Subscription

discovered lately in their hands
tion of the B. of Osnaburg Treachery
as the Court of France have the III Obi-
ligations ought to be improved to long
I forgot to tell you, that the Con-
exposed and are blowing----

These are no Letters from England, I

Most humble Love.

My Dear Sir

Wishes who are

Wishes, but their service I have in my
belonged, that it is not Honour nor
And I beg, that their Majesties may be
want of Understanding, and not of Will.

It is my thing I say, He swears its
Faction, but of Prudence and Justice.
nations are not the Effects of Honour and
Reason has its Effect, and the Determini-
while before the Resolution be taken,
Force they have, they offend the more.